

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 /089 W

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R 021418Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2190

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN 314Q

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LISBON

UNCLAS PRETORIA 2462

EE.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, MILI, WA, AO

SUBJECT: WARNING OF SWAPO BUILD-UP ON NAMIBIA-ANGOLA BORDER.

1. BRIGADIER D.R. MARAIS, COMMANDER OF SOUTH AFRICAN DEFENSE FORCE IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA, TOLD YOUTH CONGRESS OF SOUTH AFRICAN BUREAU FOR RACIAL AFFAIRS (CONSERVATIVE AFRIKANER ORGANIZATION) HELD IN NAMIBIA JULY 1 THAT 2000 TO 3000 SWAPO EXILES ARE BEING TRAINED IN ANGOLA AND AT LEAST 500 ARE ARMED AND READY. MARAIS TOLD HIS AUDIENCE THAT THESE TRAINED GUERRILLA FIGHTERS ARE IN CAMPS IN THE CUNENE DISTRICT JUST NORTH OF OWAMBO-ANGOLA BORDER.

2. MARAIS WARNED THAT OAU MIGHT PRESSURE ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS TO ALLOW SWAPO TO OPERATE FROM ANGOLAN TERRITORY. WHILE ANGOLA OPERATES UNDER INTERIM GOVERNMENT, SWAPO CAN " UTILIZE THE OPPORTUNITY TO FINALIZE THEIR MILITARY

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ACTIVITY AND PREPAREDNESS." IF MPLA GAINS POWER AFTER

INDEPENDENCE, MARAIS SAID, IT WILL ALLOW SWAPO TO OPERATE
AND, " IN THIS CASE, SWAPO WILL BE ABLE TO LAUNCH LARGE-SCALE
ATTACKS ON SWA OVER A WIDE FRONT."

3. EMPHASIZING THAT THERE WAS " NO NEED FOR PANIC," MARAIS
SAID SWA HAS " ENOUGH POTENTIAL TO BEAT THE ENEMY." IN
SWIPE AT NAMIBIA NATIONAL CONVENTION (NNC), MARAIS SAID
THAT SWAPO HAS LOST POLITICAL INFLUENCE AND IS TRYING TO
REGROUP " UNDER THAT BANNER OF THE NNC.".
BOWDLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006